

# SENATE BILL 428

N2

5r1931  
CF 5r2102

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By: **Senator Lee**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2015

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Trust Act – Revocable Trusts – Partial Revocation by Divorce or**  
3 **Annulment**

4 FOR the purpose of providing for the revocation of certain terms of a revocable trust on the  
5 absolute divorce of the settlor and the settlor's spouse or the annulment of their  
6 marriage occurring after the creation of the settlor's revocable trust, except under  
7 certain circumstances; requiring removal of the spouse as a trustee or an advisor on  
8 the date of the divorce or annulment; prohibiting the spouse from serving as a trustee  
9 or an advisor or exercising certain powers after the divorce or annulment; and  
10 generally relating to the effects of divorce or annulment on a revocable trust.

11 BY adding to  
12 Article – Estates and Trusts  
13 Section 14.5–604  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Estates and Trusts**

19 **14.5–604.**

20 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES UNLESS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY PROVIDED IN**  
21 **THE TRUST INSTRUMENT, BY COURT ORDER, OR BY WRITTEN AGREEMENT BETWEEN**  
22 **THE SETTLOR AND THE SETTLOR'S SPOUSE OR FORMER SPOUSE.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(B) ON THE ABSOLUTE DIVORCE OF THE SETTLOR AND THE SETTLOR'S**  
2 **SPOUSE OR THE ANNULMENT OF THEIR MARRIAGE OCCURRING AFTER THE**  
3 **CREATION OF THE SETTLOR'S REVOCABLE TRUST:**

4           **(1) ALL TERMS OF THE TRUST RELATING TO TRUST DISTRIBUTIONS**  
5 **TO OR FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SPOUSE SHALL BE REVOKED, AND, FOR THE**  
6 **PURPOSES OF THE TRUST, THE SPOUSE SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE DIED ON THE**  
7 **DATE OF THE ABSOLUTE DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT;**

8           **(2) IF THE SPOUSE IS SERVING AS A TRUSTEE OR AS AN ADVISOR TO**  
9 **THE TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST, THE SPOUSE SHALL BE REMOVED AS A TRUSTEE OR AN**  
10 **ADVISOR ON THE DATE OF THE ABSOLUTE DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT WITHOUT**  
11 **FURTHER COURT ACTION; AND**

12           **(3) AFTER THE DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT, THE FORMER SPOUSE MAY**  
13 **NOT:**

14                   **(I) SERVE AS A TRUSTEE OR AS AN ADVISOR TO THE TRUSTEE**  
15 **OF THE TRUST; OR**

16                   **(II) EXERCISE ANY TRUST OR FIDUCIARY POWERS PROVIDED IN**  
17 **THE TERMS OF THE TRUST, INCLUDING ANY POWER OF APPOINTMENT.**

18           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
19 October 1, 2015.